

WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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The Passing Show.

War begets unemployment; unemployment begets poverty; and out of poverty will come hatred of war—and, ultimately, peace.

A few men have plunged the world into war, unemployment, and poverty.

Europe, having gone war-mad, and ceased to produce, is scouring the globe for food.

The food that we have produced, being private property, is put up to the highest bidder.

Our benevolent Stock Exchange is shipping many tons of food products to Europe weekly—to feed the poor, the voracious (and voracious), papers say.

They wish us to believe that the gang of bandits who live by juggling prices and gambling in other people's misery is not out for profit during the present crisis.

In Britain, a similar gang exists, with power enough to close the land and factories against the producers. The result is that Britain gets 20 per cent. of its wheat from other European countries, 15 per cent. of its meat, 75 per cent. of its butter and margarine, 13 per cent. of its cheese, 56 per cent. of its vegetables, 70 per cent. of its raw fruit, and 95 per cent. of eggs, and practically all its wool, cotton, and other clothing materials from other countries.

Now that the whole of Europe is practically in the throes of war nearly all of Britain's supplies are cut off.

Under these circumstances it is obvious that the country must be pinched, and there need be no surprise that food riots are taking place.

It is equally obvious that sooner or later hunger will drive the people to devise means of feeding and clothing themselves, and this will bring them up against the whole system of private ownership of the means of life.

They will be compelled to face the question "Why should the few control the means of life of the many?"

There can only be one answer to this question, namely, there is no sense in it.

Our local pirates force the danger that this would be to themselves, and are hence very anxious to ship food to Britain and stave off enquiry.

While food is being shipped to Britain a storm is slowly gathering here. All the sources of supply are in private hands, thousands are losing their jobs, and State and Federal Governments are panic-stricken and powerless in sight of the troubles ahead.

They can see that there is bound to be a tremendous increase of unemployment in the near future, even under the most favorable conditions. We shall have thousands and thousands of unemployed men and women thinking about millions of acres of unemployed lands while they need food.

To refrain from bringing the two together from fear of the few owners will be criminal and suicidal in the opinion of many present supporters of Labor Government.

For years past Labor and Liberal Governments have kept would-be land users off the land, and have compelled them in hundreds together to ballot for a small farm here and there.

Will they be able to continue that insane system now that the number of would-be land users is being vastly augmented? Or will they be driven to recognise that something should be done?

The wage-system has broken down. Private enterprise is dead. The borrowing



William Mug at the Front.

William (Breathless), "There must be something wrong somewhere."

boom has busted. Credit has collapsed, and Capitalism has gone on a war drunk. And not a single Australian statesman is equal to the situation.

In Mexico things are different, but the press has ceased telling us anything about Mexico. Things there have not gone in a desirable or pleasing direction.

A year or two ago one, Pancho Villa, set out to free Mexico from a bunch of grafters who had collared all the land and anything else that was worth having. He secured a revolver and proceeded to organize an army. He won battle after battle with the Government troops, and armed his followers with their weapons and ammunition. He rapidly gained supporters and adherents, conquered first the northern provinces and in less than a year had over 100 machine guns, heavy artillery, mortars, plenty of ammunition, and 30,000 veteran fighters determined to make land free to all. As he marched south, Villa settled the people on the land as he went, thus ensuring abundant food supplies behind his army. In the province of Chihuahua alone, which 28 landowners previously owned, Villa settled 400,000 workers on the land. Recently, after many hard-fought battles against superior numbers, superior arms, and all the money and credit of the Mexican Government, assisted by foreign emissaries, Villa decisively defeated the Federal Army in its last stronghold, and marched an army of 100,000 into the Mexican capital, to establish settled government in the ruins of the regime of the feudal lords.

The press has described Villa to be an uneducated outlaw, but he appears to have shown the way to oblivion to all the educated grafters and feudal landlords of his country. That is probably why we hear so little about him now.

The feudal lords of Australia are lucky that there is no Pancho Villa here, where land-grubbing is the settled business of Liberal and Laborite politicians. They are chloroformed and lulled to believe that all land troubles are being rectified by Labor legislation.

In New South Wales State Parliament, Premier Holman delivered his budget speech on Oct. 20. "Let us drift" appeared to be the keynote of the speech. Provided we can borrow as before, we shall be all right.

Judging by Mr. Holman's budget, the great Labor Party is quite prepared to deal liberally with the landlords. A guarantee of a minimum price per bushel for

all wheat grown in the State is to be given by the Government, but the land barons are not to be debarred from getting a higher price if they can. They are still to be allowed to exploit the land-user under the share system, which has been specially devised to enable them to watch the other fellow raise the crop and then take the bulk of it from him as rent.

This was the evil that Villa set himself to wipe out in Mexico by force. It is the evil that constitutes the skeleton in the Labor Party's cupboard.

The N.S.W. Budget is being severely criticised in union circles, as, indeed, it well deserves to be, on account of its excesses. Foremost amongst such is the secretary of the Industrial Unions Committee, Mr. Claude Thompson, who has made a statement on behalf of his committee. Mr. Thompson says, "While recognising the difficulties brought about by the present regrettable war, our Committee is of opinion that the situation should not be allowed to drift to a more acute stage. A close scrutiny of the Budget speech does not show that the Government has any proposals to make. It is an admission of abject helplessness. Mr. Holman holds out little or no hope whatever for the future, beyond vague reference to possible Federal assistance. In his concluding remarks Mr. Holman invites the patriotic co-operation of all parties. Co-operation for what? To co-operate implies to do something. Whereas according to the proposals outlined by Mr. Holman the Government proposes to do nothing at all."

What the Industrial Unions Committee doesn't know is that its Joss cannot do anything except administer the class state in the interests of the capitalists. Mr. Holman is astute enough to know that if he attempted to do any right thing the powerful interests would rise up against him. He knows that the workers don't know enough to support radical measures, so he prefers to drift.

The sublime innocence of Mr. Thompson's committee was well illustrated when he went on to say: "Our committee is of opinion that the financial position would be relieved by the issue of £20,000,000 worth of notes."

The committee, like the majority of Laborites, has a lot to learn of Marxian economics. Holman, who has been through the Socialist classics, knows there is no loophole of escape from the financial pressure in this direction, and he says plainly that such proposals are only made by people who don't understand Socialism.

Holman says, regarding the note issue: "I would like to point out that if we were to borrow two, three, or five million pounds of paper money and pay our workmen with it, those notes would, through the medium of the stores, find their way into the banks, and the banks would be forced to either hold the notes indefinitely, thus actually granting to us a loan, which they cannot afford to do just now, or to send them on to the Federal Treasury in Melbourne and demand gold for them. Then the Federal Treasury would have to either refuse to pay gold, and thus create the very panic which we are striving so hard to prevent, or to pay out gold until the gold supply got far below the legal minimum, when a refusal to pay gold would be unavoidable."

Premier Holman knows exactly what would happen, and he knows, also, what his poor Labor followers don't know, that the only relief the workers could obtain is such as they are too benighted to demand: the suspension of house-rent and all charges for the use of land and machinery.

As pointed out in last issue, the wage-system has broken down, and job hunting is now useless. The Government has been the largest employer in the State on borrowed money, but its credit has collapsed. The only thing left is to allow the people the use of the land to employ themselves as far as they can.

Mr. Holman says he has explained the position to his followers outside the House, but "thought it undesirable to make this statement from the housetops, and thereby add to the spirit of uneasiness manifest in some quarters."

So far, the workers have been able to carry the landlords and profitmongers on their backs. But the time has come when they can carry them no further. They don't realise that these are a burden yet, but the time is fast approaching when they must. When it arrives they will not demand the borrowing of paper notes, but will tell the other fellows to get off their backs.

As if to show how befogged the workers of the Private-wealth are, certain unionists are raising an outcry against German fellow-workers, whom they describe as enemies of the Empire. Up north, a whole bunch of boneheaded miners refused to work because a German electrician was employed at the colliery, and last week the waterside workers at Townsville decided that henceforth they would refuse to work with the enemies of the Empire, who, of course, are German and Austrian fellow-workers. Poor Mugs, they have yet to learn that no man who works by their side is their enemy. Their real enemies are the men who harness them up, put winks on them, and ride on their backs, or drive them with the lash of unemployment and hunger.

New Zealand mill owners are expecting a big order for Khaki uniforms from the British Government, and are preparing to obtain a supply of cheap labor to execute same. The Wellington correspondent of the "S.M. Herald" thus gives the show away in the issue dated Oct. 22: "Though there is ample adult labor available, there is always difficulty in securing sufficient boy and girl labor. Some of the manufacturers consider that the shortage of labor will considerably restrict the output, and that the mills will not be able to secure more than a single shift for their plant working at full capacity." The ample supply of adult labor is not wanted by New Zealand profit-mongers. Boys and girls are cheaper. It is seldom that the matter is put so plainly, even in "Gord's own country."

The Special Correspondent of the London Times describes the retreat of the Allies after Namur fell: "The Germans, fulfilling one of the best of all precepts in war, never gave the retreating army one single moment's rest. The pursuit was immediate, relentless, unrelenting. Aeroplanes, Zeppelins, armoured motors, and cavalry were loosed like an arrow from the bow." O the cowards, to treat the brave Allies so cruelly!

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Iowa hero. My country, 'ere me, an' I say, 'Vell, vell' here I am, and here I vos, the enemy ish cummin'. Den I say, 'Vell, vell, vell' Irish better dot dey say, 'Dere he runs,' den dot dey say, 'Here he fell.'—Levinson on Heroism.

The Bankruptcy of Capitalist Society

Following up what was published last week on the "Collapse of Credit," something should be said on the bankruptcy of modern Capitalist society.

The war in Europe means national bankruptcy for several nations. It means the ultimate reconstruction of all the nations of the world.

The arts, sciences and inventions that have produced present-day civilisation are now being used to destroy it.

Despite recent intellectual advancement barbarism has for the time being gained the upper hand and is threatening the whole capitalist system.

The war in Europe is costing at the rate of 50 million pounds a day including the value of property destroyed and the loss owing to the cessation of production.

Poverty is now widespread and is spreading, not only in Europe, but in all other nations not directly engaged in war. Australia is suffering, so are South Africa, America, China and Japan. Everywhere conditions are becoming acute and the cost of living will soon be prohibitive.

The total wealth of all the nations at war is estimated at £60,000,000,000. Their total debts exceed £6,000,000,000 or ten per cent. of their total assets. At the rate that property is being destroyed their total assets will be wiped out in a few years.

What this means to the nations involved can be better imagined than described. How will the nations of Europe pay their debts? Their wealth will be destroyed, the energy of their people will be diminished, commerce and industry shattered, agriculture ruined, manufacture checked and the national powers to pay interest reduced to a minimum. Reputation stares the financiers in the face revolution the ruling class.

DARKNESS BEFORE DAWN.

In this sad hour, when the cloud of War stretches so darkly across the sky, when the sacred ideals for which we have fought are so cruelly broken down, when the fruit of many years' efforts is destroyed, when peace for which we laboured seems but an idle fancy—what must we Socialists do?

Let us not lose our ideals. During the noise of war our voice will not be heard, but when the battle thunder ceases, and the dark night of cruelty and hatred be passed, in the morning of peace, which we hope will soon come, our star will shine out clear in the morning sky brighter than before, and its rays shall touch the wounded world like a healing balm.

—H.V.B.

Norman Angell on the War.

A Reply to Chiozza Money.

In an article entitled "The Dispelling of Some Great Illusions," writes Mr. Norman Angell, in *Everyman*. Mr. L.G. Chiozza Money makes the following statements:—

"So much for the great illusion which has been so industriously disseminated by book and article and speech and pamphlet and league, that a great war would bring the edifice of credit tumbling to the ground, and that London as the seat of the world's greatest money market, and only free gold market would be dealt a blow from which it would never recover... the conception of certain collapse as preached by *The Great Illusion*."

Will Mr. Chiozza Money please quote for the benefit of your readers any single passage from *The Great Illusion* stating that war would, of itself, "bring the edifice of credit tumbling to the ground," or "deal the London money market a blow from which it would never recover," or one in which I have preached "certain collapse" as the result of war?

Mr. Chiozza Money would allow his readers to conclude from the passage I have quoted, as from the general tenor of his article, that the main proposition of *The Great Illusion* is that war must produce a catastrophic collapse of trade and industry in England. Not merely is that not the main proposition of the book, it is not even an accidental or necessary one. It is a conclusion which some have drawn from certain of the facts with which the book deals, but which, both in the book itself and in subsequent writings, I have always vigorously rejected, and is, right or wrong, irrelevant to what I have been concerned to urge. Indeed a considerable portion of my book is devoted to protesting against the idea that the permanent "destruction" of the trade of any country is a feasible project. Particularly in *The Great Illusion* do I insist on the absurdity (page 27, edition 1914) of the notion urged by some who oppose me, that the "total collapse of the Empire, our trade, and the means of feeding forty millions in these islands, the disturbance of capital and destruction of credit," would be any likely outcome of war. The thing which Mr. Chiozza Money represents as the proposition which the book sets out to prove is not that which it sets out to prove, and is, moreover, something which, incidentally to its main object, it does a good deal to disprove.

11.

I am aware, of course, that for very many of the public, accustomed in this as in other cases to take their views of an author's work from newspaper headlines, *The Great Illusion* is not a book that tries to prove that war is impossible, or that bank panics will stop war, or that war will cause instant ruin, or rubbish of a like kind. I have not once, but on a round dozen occasions, when the opportunity presented itself, protested against such misrepresentation. Turning over my scrap-book, I find, as an example of this kind of protest, the following from an article which appeared in the *Daily Mail* as long ago as September 15, 1911:—

"There is a tendency to draw all sorts of conclusions which the thesis (of *The Great Illusion*) does not in the least justify. One learns, for instance, with some surprise, that the very simple facts to which I have now for nearly two years been trying to draw the attention they deserve, teach that war is now impossible, or would ruin both the victor and the vanquished, or would leave the victor worse off than the vanquished."

"May I say with every possible emphasis that nothing I have ever written justifies any one of these conclusions. I have always, on the contrary, urged that:—(1) War is unhappily quite possible, and in the prevailing condition of ignorance concerning certain elementary politico-economic facts, even likely. (2) There is nothing to justify the conclusion that war would 'ruin' both victor and vanquished. Indeed, I do not quite know what the 'ruin' of a nation means. (3) While in the past the vanquished has often profited more by defeat than he could possibly have done by victory, it is no necessary result, and we are safe in assuming that the vanquished will suffer most."

In the midst of, and concerning the recent bank panic, I wrote in the same paper (August 1, 1914) the following:—

"The conclusion which the public seem disposed to draw from these very visible facts and which, indeed, some of your contemporaries have drawn very vigorously, are not at all the conclusions which we have been urging, nor those having the most important bearing upon the grave decisions—the gravest certainly that have ever confronted this generation—which people of this and other countries may shortly be called upon to take."

And in some other paper on the same day or the preceding day—I forget which—I said categorically that we must expect a rapid recovery from panic conditions and a return to more normal ones.

Again, I am aware that for those who have read the headlines about the book instead of reading the book these passages will appear a contradiction; but there is no con-

tradiction, and one was justified in assuming that a critic professing to be a serious economist, would, before savagely attacking an author's work, judge it at first instead of at second hand. I repeat my challenge to Mr. Chiozza Money to find a single passage in *The Great Illusion* supporting what in the passage I have quoted from his article he puts forward as the proposition embodied in the book. Unless he is able to do that, your readers will be able to draw their own conclusions as to Mr. Chiozza Money's value as a fair, impartial, or serious critic in these matters.

111.

What bearing, as a matter of fact, has *The Great Illusion* on the present crisis? I will try to indicate that in a line or two.

What are the underlying causes of this war? How comes it that if the people of Europe did not wish it they have at least been brought to tolerate, to sanction, and to take part in it? We know that it is in part a struggle of Slav versus Teuton, in part the outcome of resentment for the past conquest of provinces, and an attempt to reconquer them; our part in it, so far as it was dictated by considerations for the Balance of Power, is due to the assumption—a correct one for all I know to the contrary—that the armaments of Germany were in part directed against us, and that her power might be used to our disadvantage in some way. Indeed, the whole struggle in its broadest aspect is a struggle for political power by one group as against another: a "fight for the mastery of Europe," as the headlines so often tell us. Now I have attempted to show that this power of one group of men to dominate another is a futile and empty thing even when achieved; that it can do nothing for the welfare or the dignity of the people of the State exercising it; that Germany or Russia might conquer vast territories and the individual German or Russian would be none the better, would not even win respect for his military greatness (no one would think of respecting a Russian moujik more than a Norwegian peasant because the first is the member of a great State and the second of a small one; still less because the great Power has made itself the master of a Finland or a Poland). I have attempted to show that the idea that acquisition of territory is equivalent to acquisition of wealth, is simply a misconception of what political "ownership" means in the modern world.

1V.

It is obvious that men do desire military domination of rival political groups, just as in the past the rival religious groups of Europe, the Catholics and Huguenots fought for domination the one over the other. That struggle came to an end, not because men ceased to defend their religion, but because they came to see that it was futile to attempt to impose it by military force upon others. That struggle was due to a misconception as to the relation of military power to religious faith and truth, just as the present struggle is due to a misconception of the relation of political and military power to national prosperity and honor. To show the true relation one has to show the real nature of the process by which the work of the world—its feeding, clothing, education, and the rest—is carried on, and how irrelevant is military power to these ends; to show that political mastery can serve no useful purpose, solve no real human problem, that the true relationship of men, whether in the economic or the moral sphere, is one of partnership in which we are all dependent one upon the other.

Men do not believe this; they talk of brotherhood as of some distant ideal; they believe that their groups are in their interests necessarily rival groups. Mr. Chiozza Money extols the common view when he tells us Germany's industrial ruin will be to our advantage, as our ruin would be "a great material gain for Germany." The peoples of Europe do not believe that nations are really dependent each on the other, and in order to make that belief a living realisation of the mind as well as an aspiration of the heart, it is necessary to show the process and working of the interdependence of civilised society. Of that process the international credit system is an integral part. Not merely as an illustration of interdependence concrete and visible, understandable to the average man in the workshop and the market-place is the credit system of immense value; but its operations reveal dramatically the economic futility of the imposition of military power over others, and show how by reason of processes which I have detailed at some length, the use of military power for such things as the destruction of nationality is increasingly difficult. But the popular view is, we are perfectly aware, that expressed by Mr. Chiozza Money. Europe has yet to learn that the mere possession of military power over other nations is irrelevant to the essential and highest needs of conqueror and victim alike; that the philosophy which underlies the endeavor to secure it distorts all our conceptions of human relationships and renders unsound the very foundations of European society.

V.

Does any one really think that this war, whatever its outcome, will be anything but an unspeakably pathetic demonstration of the truth of this thesis? Is there any one single object which it will achieve—whether it be a larger autonomy for Alsace, a great-

er respect for international law, any arrangement for our common security which the nations will have to settle as between themselves when the war is over—that could not have been settled with a little more wisdom before the war began? We in England believe that the danger of the whole situation was the military autocracy of Prussia, and before the war there were millions of Germans who shared that view. But now that they see so many enemies ranged against them, they may think that perhaps those Prussians were right in demanding the great armaments. Prussianism, which before the war was discredited in Germany itself, has now become the patriotism of sixty-five million Germans. How can they, when beaten, and in the face perhaps of an attempt to dismember their Empire, be persuaded that they do not need this huge military machine? Even suppose that we crush them, how shall we be able to prevent their preparing that military renaissance, with the steady patience which they have shown after defeat in the past? How can we expect them to abandon that struggle when all of us are preaching that great armaments are the only sound protection, the only sure means of peace, and that military and political power is the only road to real national greatness?

It is possible that from the sufferings of this war may emerge saner conceptions of human relationship. But that is not certain; the older prejudices may all be intensified, make this the seed of indefinite wars, and turn Europe into a sort of Balkan Peninsula. But in any case, it is one of the ironies of this tragedy that it is upon the ultimate triumph of ideas which are for the moment in all countries alike so often disparaged and derided, as dangerous and unpatriotic, that depends what is in the last resort our only hope for the salvage of civilisation.

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR.

—Vorenus.

All doubts as to the cause of this war have been set at rest by Major Henry Page Croft, M.P., of the West Herts. Regiment. Writing from headquarters under the heading of "A Call to the British," the gallant major says some things we would not expect him to say. First of all he says what we would expect to hear from him. It is, "This war which has been ruthlessly forced upon us by a nation which has torn up every treaty which stands in its path, and which has forced the British Empire to choose between fidelity and perfidy, and between honor and moral damnation, is, however, just from our point of view, a war involving our very existence." Unfortunately, his very next sentence reads, "If our enemies were to triumph, Germany would be master of Europe, and the mastery of Europe carries with it the trading monopoly and the overlordship of vast vacant spaces of the world." That undoubtedly puts his first sentence right out. It plainly shows that this war is a fight for trade, and trade is controlled by capitalism. It only too plainly says that Britain wants the trading monopoly and the right to grab the vacant places of the earth. Evidently Germany is after the same prizes. Hence the war. Could anything be plainer than this British major's frank admission? At the grand talk about Britain protecting Belgium, and being the bulwark of the weak against the strong, the hope of the downtrodden, and the shield of the small States, is, after all, sheer lies.

Bernard Shaw is particularly bitter. He writes: "But we are all three—France, Germany, and England alike—committing a crime against civilisation for the benefit of Russia; and to ask me or any other sane man to create an illusion of nobility and purity and patriotism round such a crime is to ask honest people to do the work of dupes and fools. We shall have to fight and die, and pay and suffer with the grim knowledge that we are sacrificing ourselves in an insane cause, and that only by putting up a particularly good fight can we bring ourselves out of it with credit."

For what is to happen if we smash Germany and smash Sweden, if we have forced Sweden to join Germany. Simply that we shall have to defend both Sweden and Germany against Russia, and to defend them when we are exhausted by a fratricidal war. And if Germany smashes us and annexes the coast of the North Sea, what sort of back seat shall we and France occupy—we, who might have dictated the destinies of Western Europe if we had stood for civilisation and not for loans to Russia and capitalist exploitation in Persia? Thus we can see that this war is only a prelude. Another is to come—Capitalism has already decreed it—and that one will be much worse than this one, that is, of course, if the workers will then let Capitalism fool them as it is fooling them now. And the next excuse? Probably Russia will make a show of wiping Turkey out, just as Germany was forced to invade Belgium.

The Wilderness.

The more one digs, delves and inquires into things, the more one is astounded at the absurdity of it all. The more closely one looks at the faces and probes the minds of one's fellow humans, the more pessimistic one becomes, that is, unless one has a saving sense of humor.

One walks through the gardens, parks, the art galleries and libraries, and in the printed, painted and landscape pictures, one is arrested by the thought of how beautifully man has expressed himself. One looks at the imposing and magnificent cathedrals, public buildings and bridges, the mighty boats and wonderful railroad systems for annihilating time and distance, the gigantic reservoir, and one feels glad to be alive and brother to those fellow humans who have created such wonders of beauty and utility.

All around is wonderful. Nature herself appears to have worked untiringly and unsparingly to present a never-ending variety of beautiful and wonderful works, and a bountiful earth, from which to produce all that we need for a comfortable and happy existence, and in addition an intelligence with which to appreciate and enjoy it all. Alas, however, for our appreciation and enjoyment. A searching glance at our grotesque social system gives one the horrors of a nightmare. All the most evil passions possible to conceive of are flourishing voraciously.

"Do others or they will do you," is the watchword. All are on the defensive and watching their fellow men like thieves. Of morality there is little or none. The mating of the sexes, that should be the most holy of all ties, is almost universally a question of commercialism. The woman has little or no opportunity of choosing her mate. The environment of the well-to-do woman has produced a sickening, horrible species of vanity. The dreadful environment of the women of the poor has compelled the ousting of all respect for her womanhood. Each sells herself for the best opportunity. The mate is not considered at all.

In our industrial life, corruption and roguery of every description flourishes furiously. The capitalist sinks all honor and principle in his unscrupulous exploitation of the worker. It is well, indeed, to have a sense of humor, for unless one had a tonic of such power, the pitiable spectacle of the ignorant, uneducated mass of workers in their hopeless existence would crush one.

The absurdity, however, of seeing the numerous mass ungrudgingly toiling wearily, in poverty and dirt, to support a few idlers in luxury, is, although tragic in the extreme, too funny for words.

The remedy is so very simple:

If a man does not work he should not eat.

From each according to his means.

To each according to his needs.

Near where I live, a fellow, we will call him De Smythe, decided to build a terrace of 22 houses. While he went for a trip to the old country, a small army of men came along, and after working about six months, completed the building of the houses.

De Smythe arrived back just as they finished, and immediately took possession of the whole 22.

I was speaking to a couple of the workmen (carpenters) who had worked on them from start to finish. This was a couple of weeks later, and they were both unanimous in their praise of De Smythe. It appeared De Smythe had generously allowed them the privilege of living in a couple of the houses for a rental of 25/- a week each. I hunted up De Smythe to enjoy the joke over a couple of whiskies. He failed me, however.

It seems one of the two fellows had a large family of small children, and one never knew how the young devils might knock a man's house about. He was thinking of giving the fellow a week's notice to quit.

I looked in his face and saw the offended look of one who has been wickedly cheated. The environment of the present system under which we live had warped through a yellow tinted lens. A loafer, a parasite, supported in a life of idleness and stupid self-indulgence, both of which tend to destroy the best that is in him.

And the mass of workers who support him and the class he represents insults the intelligence of their humanity by their despicable stupidity. Look at the multitudes of men they support, who do nothing else day after day, and year after year, but learn how to kill their brother man, and what heroes are made of those who become proficient in the killing. We hang a man for killing another in the heat of passion, and we honor a man who kills scores after deliberate preparation.

And the God Idea.

With fear and trembling we have created a despotic God in our imaginations, and we dress our brother man in black clothes (an appropriate covering), and

A Woman's Letter.

The war is still in progress, and still the world goes round. The charity-mongers are having a lovely time, there are funds to the right of us, funds to the left of us, cannons in front of us, but, no one has blundered. O dear no, everything is as it should be. Sydney is the happy hunting ground of the charity-monger. Any excuse will do for these humbugs to form themselves into cliques and rings, and ask the public to pay, pay, pay.

And what is charity—is it giving a penny to the poor and a pound to the rich? Does it mean to give with the right hand and take with the left? Does it consist only of giving? And is it not possible to be charitable in thought and word, as well as in deed? If so, what little charity there is in the world! How very eager people are to listen to the slanderer and detractor—the more unlikely the slander the more ready they are to believe, or pretend to believe, evil of those who have no evil in them.

The rich man gives of his abundance. It may be that he has charity, may be he has it not. He may not know the meaning of the word; he gives because it looks well to have his name on a charity list, or if he is a business man, he knows it is a sure investment, and puts his name down for hundreds or thousands, and then he considers himself a very fine fellow. Whether the money he gives (which he never misses) reaches the object it is intended for, never troubles him, they have him on the list, then he is quite happy. If a poor struggling brother, tottering on the brink of adversity, was to go to this man and ask him for a little help, he would most likely spurn him from his door. The hundreds and thousands that are collected every year in the name of charity could be made to make many sore hearts glad, and lift hundreds of families out of want and despair. That kind of charity, however, is not fashionable; it is so very unpleasant, you know, to have anything to do with the misery that is at our door. The kind of charity we hear so much about brings to mind a version of charity dressed in a Paris gown, holding a crust on a very long toasting fork, to some poor, starving creature. It is so much nicer to meet charity's step-sister, dressed in the very latest mode, than to come in contact with the real charity, who always gives one the shivers. Poor charity, her cloak is very thin, yet it is supposed to cover a multitude of sins; and so it does for a time, but sooner or later, the ugly monster, sham and hypocrisy, peeps through the rents in the poor garment.

There are numbers of men and women who run about, collecting for this mission and that, who are looked upon by silly, unthinking people, as being very charitable. As a rule the Missions are a long way off, and the collectors know as much about them as Mrs. Jellyby's daughter knew about Africa when she wished "Africa was dead." There are scores of women like Mrs. Jellyby, who gad about, and spend their time in missions to people who are better than themselves, and who do not want their missions. What about their homes and their husbands! If they have any. Perhaps the following lines would fit them:

She went round and asked subscriptions
For the heathen black Egyptians,
And the Terra del Fuegos.

So she did.

For the tribes round Athabasca,
And the men of Madagascar,
And the poor souls of Alaska

So she did.

She longed, she said, to buy,
Jelly, cake, and jam and pie,
For the Anthropophagi—

So she did.

She sent tins of red tomatoes
To the tribes beyond the equator,
But her husband skinned potatoes—

So he did.

The poor, helpless, hopeless thing
(My voice falters as I sing),
Tied his t—s up with string—

So he did.

EILEEN BAWN.

make a liar and hypocrite of him by supporting him in a life of ease, to teach us the absurd lie. Roguery, debauchery, hypocrisy and filth of every description abounds. When one looks at this second picture of man's creation, one wants to hide away, and for very shame is unable to look his fellow in the face.

The saving clause, however, is the ridiculous imbecility of it all, and the generous, unflinching honesty of those brave spirits who have all through the ages worked fearlessly against overwhelming odds of superstition and ignorance, holding up the torch of light that leads to truth.

Here, then, is to those heroes who have gone before, and to those who are still with us, who have fought and who are still fighting in the cause of humanity.

F. S. BARRETT.

Topical Tattle.

Mr. Page, M.H.R., speaking re compulsory trainees, said: "If we catch them young, we can instil into their minds ideas which become part of their lives." Such a policy was adopted by Germany, and we see the result at the present day.

Although far removed from the actual seat of war, Australian workers are going to feel its effects very soon. The Federal Government is going to pluck from him as much as it conveniently can, while the State Government takes its share after the bigger jackal is finished.

Thus the "Telegraph": "Members (State) are getting tired of their long-continued spell of inactivity." WHAT! getting tired of doing nothing at a tenner-a-week! Sure, there's something wrong somewhere.

Had the Labor Government the horse-sense of an ordinary cow, it would not have squandered in good times all the shillings it could lay hands on, but left a little for a rainy day. Unfortunately, there seems to be no Joseph in our Parliament—nor a Solomon either.

A Sydney parson contends that "God did not want to see national suicide." If the present war is not national—as well as economic suicide—for one or two of the world's nations, we don't know what is.

Who suffers most when a country's economic conditions are affected? The workers! And still they put into power a Government whose interests are supposed to be theirs, and yet, when matters run a little out of the ordinary groove, all the very same Government can do is to allow the toilers to earn half instead of a whole loaf.

In a country situated like ours there should have been no unemployment due to the European War, and if what the Labor Government has done to date in this respect is a sample of their governing power, then we can form a good idea what things would have been like had the enemy been climbing over Australia's back fence, or knocking at the front parlor door.

While the toilers earn half-a-loaf in four days, or three, their kind friends in Parliament—Lib or Lab—earn (?) their full £10-loaf in one day. Unfortunately there's too much "loaf" about them.

In the early days, when men were "pressed" to serve in George's or Bill's Navy, by the aid of the King's shilling, that was about the value at which he was estimated. And so we have the minimum value of a man—not less than a shilling!

We believe there is plenty of artistic talent available for the designing of bank notes—or anything else—but evidently those responsible for the production of the Commonwealth 10/- note couldn't obtain this skill, or were duffers—or something. These notes are so rottenly designed that they can easily be passed off on any short-sighted, or careless person, for a £10 note. We have no sympathy for rookstakers, but learn that several of these gentry were thus imposed upon at the recent race meeting. The rooks were rooked in this case; nevertheless, it is not right that an avenue for wrong doing should be left open to unscrupulous persons by the Government.

After 2,000 years of Christianity nations that are supposed to be Christian have to adopt might to settle a question of right. And 2,000 years hence will find this old world in the same position if the workers do not exert themselves and their power. "Workers of the world, unite!"

Capitalism is the very root of all war. If we abolish the first-mentioned the latter must follow as a consequence. And remember, Capitalism is not going to be abolished by the workers electing a Labor Government for three years, forgetting all about their misdeeds in the interim, and being calmed with oily promises and flattering words at the next election.

The toilers can't take matters into their own hands and do as they choose, but must effect their desires constitutionally and keep their servants, the politicians, on the move.

The rascally politician will fasten himself limpet-like on the backs of his constituents if they are foolish enough. How many N.S.W. electorates are thus effected and make no effort to get rid of the parasite?

In his book, the "Anglo-German Problem," Professor Sarolea says: "The dread of a civil war is often the direct cause of a foreign war, and the ruling classes are driven to seek outside a diversion from internal difficulties." The real cause of the present appalling conflict may probably be attributed to the fact that, owing to the grave internal social troubles affecting Russia, Austria, France, Germany and England prior to the outbreak of war, the "ruling classes"—the war-mon-

gers—decided to "let 'er rip." Matters will be more easily adjusted after there has been some of the more or less heated blood spilt. The pity of it is that the fighters have not enough sense to let the "eggheads" do the scrapping, or let some of their watery blood, instead of that of their fellows.

At the time of the Boer War Australian jingoes denounced and reviled those plucky people, and generally killed them with their mouths. Recently a unit of soldiers offered their services to General Smuts, their former enemy, to fight against the rebel, Maritz, which help was declined. The same may possibly occur in the future with regard to Germany, unless a new enemy is raised up for the workers to destroy themselves upon. Can't the Boneheads realise the mockery of the whole thing?

F. M.

Sydney Socialist I. W. W.

At the last meeting of the above, the Secretary was directed to give publicity through the Press and the Labor bodies generally to the I.W.W.'s sympathetic protest against the unreasoning racial prejudice manifested in various parts of the State and Commonwealth against German Workers and Unionists, who are in no way responsible for the Kaiser's War or the Armageddon in Europe, and that the Hetton and Helensburg coalminers who recently struck against Germans being employed, should not overlook the fact that it is only by International working-class solidarity, that the Kaiser's Capitalism on the Mining fields of Australia, as elsewhere in every land can be overthrown from their positions of overlords of the toilers. The I.W.W.'s fight is against "Man's inhumanity to Man."

GEORGE WAITE,
Corr. Sec., Socialist I.W.W.

Sydney Chamber of Commerce sent 60 tons of biscuits to England last week to be distributed amongst the poor. The object, of course, is to impress upon England that we have no poor here who require biscuits.

The cable-lar reported the other day that "Vorwaerts," the German Socialist daily, has been permanently suppressed. Since then he has been freely quoting the paper. Dr. Carl Liebknecht is also reported to be alive and well, after being shot by a platoon of infantry.

A Belgian, lately of Bruges said: "What, in God's name, have we to look forward to at the end of the war? Our cities are smoking ruins. All our peasants, who are the best agriculturists in the world, will have to start life again elsewhere. Our country is wiped out. We no longer exist." Of course, there is the "glory" to look forward to. The Belgians have won a whole heap of "glory." They have even been praised by Joe Cook and Andy Fisher for their bravery.

Belgian workers have made an undoubted mess of things. Had they refused to fight the Germans would have passed by without killing a man. Now their country is devastated, thousands of them have been killed, and the remainder are wandering aimlessly about as refugees living on charity. From a working class standpoint, war is sheer lunacy. Better let an enemy take all the banks, bankers and capitalists than to lose your lives defending them.

Adult Suffragists are Adult Suffragists because they believe in all-round equality of opportunity between the sexes; and this applies to service for the race as well as to rights to be enjoyed. Acting on this principle, the Socialists of New South Wales are running a woman, Mrs. Paul, for the Commonwealth Parliament; while the Labor Party, who are not so sound as the Socialists on this "equality" question, have refused to sanction the candidature of any woman. Again, the whole Socialist Party of Australia and of New Zealand elected as their delegate on the International Bureau and for the Vienna Congress a woman, the editor of our paper, who, if the Congress had not been, in consequence of the war, indefinitely postponed, would have served in the capacity of accredited delegate from the thousands of Socialist comrades who sent, through her, both greetings and reports from the Antipodes.—The Adult Suffragist.

"You were boneheaded soldiers in two opposing armies on earth," queried Satan.

"Yes," replied the two new arrivals.

"Well just get into that oven and smoke together in peace from this out," said his Majesty with a chuckle as he pushed them in and closed the door with a bang.

Clergyman (to crippled mendicant): "I would have liked to give you a shilling, my poor man, but I find that I have nothing less than a florin."

The Poor Man: "S'pose we toss up to see who takes the lot."

"I never gamble," replied the reverend one as he hurried off.

Teacher: "What is patriotism?"

Small Scholar: "Father says it is hollering for what the papers teach."



MELBOURNE, Sunday. The Prime Minister and Minister for Defence inspected the Queensland troops on Saturday, and they were both extremely pleased with the bearing of the men. The Prime Minister announced to the troops that they would be permitted to wear the emu feather as part of their uniform. This pleased the soldiers immensely. Senator Pearce also addressed the men. —Daily Telegraph October 29.

Let the Toilers All Unite.

Air: "Dear-Lover of My Soul!"
"Jesus, Lover of My Soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly,"
So the Worker pleads roll
Upward to the silent sky;
While the rents are far too high,
And the prices upward fly,
What's the use of waiting time
Singing such a futile rhyme.

Let the toilers all unite
All injustice to oppose,
Let them get into the fight
Where the scarlet banner goes.
Cease to sing about the soul,
While exploiters levy toll,
Watch the halcyon band
Don't grab all the blooming land.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objective.—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production, Distribution and Exchange.
Headquarters: 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

Gad! What a week.
Seven days of strenuous propagandist effort was crowned on Sunday night last by brilliant lecture. Professor Atkinson,—who has a very pleasant and free delivery—at the outset paid great homage to the late Karl Marx as one of the foremost in the vanguard of intellectual progress of the last century. Describing Marx as the Darwin of Economic Science, briefly, but fully, summed up the situation. The Professor described Marx's contribution to the science of Economic Evolution, his elucidation of the materialist conception of history as epoch making. The lecturer nevertheless desired to criticise and show wherein his opinion Marx's theory of value is fallacious. Marx differed from other economists by asserting that Labor power was the sole creator and measure of value. He the lecturer differed from this theory. Marx himself exploded his own theory, by introducing other factors, e.g. supply and demand, as being necessary, after he had already asserted to the contrary. He the lecturer could not see how we could not have it both ways, yet he was prepared to seriously consider any kind of argument in support of the theory. His the Speaker's opinion was that far from Labor power being the sole agency for creating value, utility was an absolutely necessary qualification. Marx also had asserted this in the words that, nothing can have value without being useful. It was just here that Marx became inconsistent. The Professor gave a number of simple analogies to demonstrate his argument; such as:—Some of the most valuable sponges are acquired with comparatively little Labor, while many of the poorest require the expenditure of an enormous amount of Labor. Besides being presumptive it is futile to endeavour to explain the bulk of the Professor's reasoning, in the short space provided for Sydney notes. It is not unfair to sum by saying that a brilliant peroration was concluded by a superbly critical discussion; the latter very ably defending the Marxian theory. The outcome of this very elevating discussion will most likely resolve itself into a debate on the same subject between the Professor and a member of the Socialist Party. Keep your eyes well open for the announcement of an intellectual treat. Sydney branch propaganda and membership is decidedly in the ascendant. It is now a common thing to see a Rebel, without wasting time, take a stump

and "vade right in, with the aforementioned result. Come! lend a hand; and enjoy the struggle. Next Sunday's Domain meeting will boom owing to anticipated opposition. Next Sunday evening's hall discussion will be opened by Comrade Christopherson. No need to elaborate, suffice it to say that, He is Comrade Christopherson. Roll up early. Don't forget the dance on Friday, come along and never mind the weather.
J.Q., Sec.

BRISBANE.

On Sunday evening last instead of the usual lecture we had a general discussion on "Hereditary and Environment." Two of our Gymnic comrades descended upon us with some novel ideas concerning the power of environment, and the utter fallacy of the popular conception that characteristics of the parents can be passed down to the children. The boys from Gymnic did not substantiate their arguments in a way to carry conviction, but a promise of a return visit was given on which occasion a paper would be read dealing more fully with the issue. The evening's discussion was most interesting, and the audience enjoyed it thoroughly.

To the many comrades scattered throughout Queensland the Brisbane Branch sends fraternal greetings and a request. If the Socialist Party is to grow in this State it is imperative that we bring more method into our propaganda. The first move toward success in this matter is to get into touch with one another. By a process of linking up, our efforts would be more effectual and waste of good energy would end. We ask that all Queensland comrades write to the Secretary, Box 10, South Brisbane. Send along your name and address; outline the possibilities for propaganda in your district, and give as much information as possible concerning local conditions. It is by such means we can help and strengthen each other. Comrades, it is up to you! We have a hard task before us, but mutual aid will give us the necessary power to accomplish our object.

Yours in the fight,
GORDON BROWN,
Box 10, South Brisbane.

MELBOURNE BRANCH, A.S.P.

Scorching heat, clouds of dust, and the antics of an individual called the "Peanut King," made the holding of our Yarra Bank meeting on Sunday, 18th October, somewhat more difficult than usual.

Nevertheless a meeting was held, and towards the close boasted a large and interested audience.

Messrs. Harris, Anderson and Wilson handed out the gospel of revolution, whilst comrades C. Hulbert, Miss Hulbert, and Lagains made themselves busy in an equally important role.

The evening meeting at headquarters was somewhat disappointing, when one considers the fact that Melbourne's unemployed thousands were invited to attend.

Comrades Finberg (Sec. I.W.W.), Wilson, and Anderson each spoke; whilst Comrade Jeffrey presided. The economic cause of unemployment was laid bare, and the quick remedies for same, and the necessity for education and organisation towards revolution made clear.

The propaganda meeting at Newport workshops on Friday was well attended, wage-slaves begrimed with dirt and oil being present in increased numbers, and all evidently taking a keen interest in what the speaker had to say, made those who made the journey feel that after all there was a real pleasure in being a soldier of Socialism.

Branch members are requested to note that the date for holding of launch picnic in aid of the Press Fund has been altered to Sunday, 22nd November.

The speakers for Sunday evenings are as follows:—November 1st, W. H. Renwick; November 8th, Mr. J. McDonald; November 15th, C. W. Green. No meetings at Yarra or hall on Sunday, 22nd, on account of launch picnic. November 29th, Mrs. Lavender, M.A. Make a note of the speakers and their dates, attend, and bring a friend.

P.S.—Comrades,—Don't forget the protest meeting in connection with the continued imprisonment of New Zealand strikers by the Massey Government on Sunday, 8th November, Yarra Bank, 3 p.m.

J. R. W.

Tom O'Connor writes from up North Queensland way: "I am a lengthman out here, and in common with the rest of the service, have been asked to contribute to the Patriotic Fund, the which I have absolutely refused. Now the other men in the gang are parting up 4d. in the £, so not to be behind I will contribute the same amount to the "International Socialist," commencing from Sept 26. My pay is £5 18s. 6d. per fortnight, so you will kindly

Fund, and receive herewith the first instalment of that amount to your Maintenance Fund of 10s. Our comrade's ten bob was duly received, and is being used in a patriotic effort to break down sham patriotism, jingoism, and racial and national prejudices. Others who want to help in this work may do worse than follow Tom O'Connor's example.

The British aristocratic ruling class is very affable towards the British Mug just now. All their hauteur, their dignity in the face of danger, their unbending courage in adversity, their stoical heroism, etc., has given place to blue funk and abject cringing to the despised and defrauded workers to go out and fight the terrible Germans. Frantic letters are appearing in the Times and other papers from "landowners," "officers," and "gentlemen," appealing to Mug to stand up for the Empire, and Mug forgetful of past brutal treatment is rushing to the front to keep the Germans from searing the hypocritical creatures to death. It's dead funny!

Newtown Branch.—Rooms 41 Enmore Rd., Newtown. Propaganda meetings: Friday evenings, Johnstone-St., Leichhardt. Saturday and Sunday evenings, Newtown Bridge.

Ray Everitt, Secretary.

Australasian Socialist Party.

Principles and Policy.

1. Objective.

The Social ownership with Democratic control of the means of production, distribution, and exchange.

2. Statement of Principles.

The present form of Society rests on private ownership of the land and the machinery (tools) of production.

The owners of most of the land and machinery of production constitute what is economically known as the capitalist class. Hence the use of the term, "The capitalist form of society."

This form of ownership divides society in all countries into two distinct and opposing classes—the capitalist class and the working class.

The working class produces all the wealth that sustains society, while it is held in complete economic and industrial subjection to the capitalist class, which lives on the wealth produced by the working class.

To enable the working class to wage the class war, it must be fully conscious of the wrongs inflicted upon the workers by the capitalist class; and it must organise industrially to voice its wrongs and assert its claims. Then it will be prepared for political action to overthrow the usurping class and to abolish classes for ever.

The deaths by starvation, the millions of unemployed,—the excessive toil for bare subsistence, the poverty, crime and consequent misery, are all the direct outcome of domination by the ruling class. That class must go.

The Australasian Socialist Party demands common ownership of all agencies of wealth production by the people themselves and the control of all industrial affairs on the basis of social equality.

The workers of Australasia must, without delay, take up their position along with the organised, class-conscious workers of all other countries. There is no escape from the thrall of capitalism short of its complete overthrow, and this can only be achieved by the class-conscious industrial and political organisation of the working class.

The Australasian Socialist Party, therefore, calls upon all workers to forthwith identify themselves with the existing A.S.P. Branches in their respective States, and to work unceasingly for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system, and for the emancipation of their class from wage slavery.

3. Guiding Rule.

The Australasian Socialist Party shall on all political and industrial legislation make the answer to this question its guiding rule of conduct: Will the proposal advance the interests of the working class and aid the workers in their class struggle against capitalism? If it will, the Australasian Socialist Party is for it; if it will not, the Australasian Socialist Party is absolutely opposed to it.

4. As to Palliatives.

Whereas the advocacy of political palliatives (so-called) tends to obscure the working class objective of emancipation from wage slavery, and thus causes the workers to expend time and effort to little purpose; and

Whereas political palliatives (so-called) as adopted by legislatures have rarely proved efficacious, and have usually created the need for further legislative restrictions, and therefore kept working class action circular instead of straight; and

Whereas political palliatives even if desirable are best obtained by educating and organising for basic ends, inasmuch as sops have ever been conceded when something more fundamental is the demand; be it

Resolved that the Australasian Socialist Party declares against a programme of palliatives, and urges the workers to concentrate their energies upon abolishing capitalism by perfecting their industrial organisations and only using the ballot for Socialist propaganda.

5. As to Political Action.

No member of the A.S.P. shall stand as other than the candidate of the A.S.P., or support other than the candidate of a Revolutionary Socialist Party for Parliamentary or municipal office. A Revolutionary Socialist Party shall be any party which bases its Propaganda on the recognition of the class struggle, and declares for the collective ownership of the means of production, distribution, and exchange, and has no programmes of Palliatives.

No member or branch of the A.S.P. shall enter into any alliance temporary or permanent with any other than a Revolutionary Socialist Party. Socialist candidates shall be selected by the branches concerned, and where no branch exists by the Administrative Council, and before running be endorsed by the National Executive, to which the candidate shall pledge himself to advocate and support the principles and policy of the A.S.P.

Before entering upon a campaign a candidate shall hand to his Branch a written resignation to be read in the event of him swerving from the A.S.P. Policy.

A candidate must be a member of the A.S.P. and shall also have been for twelve months a member of the A.S.P. or another organisation affiliated with the International Socialist Bureau.

6. As to Unionism.

The A.S.P. aims and declares for Industrial Unionism as against craft or sectional unionism, for whereas the specialisation of the processes of production, the invention of machinery, and the concentration of ownership into fewer and fewer hands, makes craft unionism unable to cope with this economic development, and ever growing power of the employing class, because it is a relic of a lower stage in the evolution of capitalist production, i.e., the organised labor expressions of lower forms of tools, the A.S.P. therefore declares that to-day this organisation has outlived its usefulness, and has created crafts and sections amongst the working class in the same industry, and this contradiction in industrial development allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set in the same industry, and industry against industry, thereby defeating one another when waging war against the encroachments of the capitalist class, with their superior and highly developed organisations. And in view of the economic development the working class must organise in such a manner as will correspond to the development of the tools of production. This, then, makes it imperative that industrial organisation on right lines must be so constituted that all but technical distinctions between crafts and callings must be eliminated, and sectionalism abolished. The A.S.P. therefore affirms that industrial unionism in contra distinction to craft unionism is that form of organisation which is based upon the recognition of the class struggle, and through which all its members in one industry or in all industries, if necessary, can act as a unit and adopt such methods by which the might and power of the working class can be best exercised and demonstrated.

The A.S.P. affirms its pronounced and mature conviction that Compulsory Arbitration, Wages Boards, the New Protection, and the like, as manifested in slightly-differing enactments in the Australian States and New Zealand, have not been advantageous to the working class.

7. As to Compensation.

The Australasian Socialist Party vehemently protests against the working class being misled by the Labor or other parties into the belief that it is possible to socialize the instruments of production by a gigantic scheme of "buying out," or compensation to the possessing class, and warns the workers against endorsing such a utopian, immoral, and impracticable plan.

8. As to Militarism.

The A.S.P. declares itself uncompromisingly hostile to all forms of armaments and militarism, recognising that whilst the present class State exists the armed forces will be used to buttress up capitalism, and to hold down the workers. The A.S.P. further recognises that the energies of the working class can be better utilised in building up their industrial and political organisations, which shall finally render war impossible, as such organizations by international affiliation and alliances between the working classes of all nations are at present the chief guarantee of the peace of the world.

9. As to Schools.

In declaring the need for Socialist Schools, the A.S.P. urges that same be established whenever and wherever the circumstances permit.

10. As to Historical Materialism.

The A.S.P. pledges itself to the materialistic interpretation of history, which asserts that the transition from one system of society to another, as in the past, from primitive communism to chattel slavery, from chattel slavery to feudalism, and from feudalism to the present Capitalist State, has been the result of new and improved methods of production, and the time has now arrived when the present scientific tools of production, by being socially owned, would make possible the establishment of the Socialist Republic.

11. As to Education.

The A.S.P. declares for and supports the principle of Secular Education in State Schools; and against subsidising denominational schools; and further holds that as religion is entirely a personal matter, and as State schools are composed of scholars of different religious beliefs the introduction of religious teaching can only result in fostering religious bigotry, and is a waste of valuable time.

PRESS AND MAINTENANCE FUND.

H. Pender Sec., J. McVeigh Sec., H. Olsen Sec., J. Szpanski Sec.

SUBS RECEIVED.

J. Vasilukow 2s., C. Schwartz 1s., Volikow 1s., Mrs. Hobbs 1s., A. H. Biber 1s., C. Langdon 2s., F. E. Mitchell 4s., J. Szpanski 4s., E. Foreman 1s.

A SURPRISE PACKET.

Send us a postal note or penny stamps to the value of 1s. and we will mail you two pamphlets by Joseph McCabe—"The Bible in State Schools" and "The Church and the People"; also a set of postcards with Karl Liebknecht's portrait, anti-militarist cartoons, and anti-militarist songs printed on the back.

The "International Socialist" depends entirely upon those who have the will and desire to serve the movement. With their aid, its power for future good is beyond computation; without it, its publication must soon cease and its mission fail. That being so, all who desire to aid the movement should help the "International" in any way they can. Everyone who sends in subs., or donations to the maintenance fund helps the paper's circulation while it does battle against the enemies of the workers. The most unassuming and modest comrade can help to overthrow capitalism and hasten the day when the exploitation of the worker by parasitic profit-mongers shall be no more.

Printed and published by William Robert Winspear, at 115 Goulburn-St., Sydney, for the Sydney Branch of the Australasian Socialist Party.